

Message Text

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71

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SS-15 NSC-10 CPR-02 CU-04 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01

RSR-01 /081 W

----- 041327

R 241230Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY MBABANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5249

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MBABANE 1394

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV

SUBJ: KING SOBHUZA'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

1. KING SOBHUZA'S SEVENTY-FOURTH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION JULY 23 HELD IN TOWN OF MANKAYANE FOR FIRST TIME. MANKAYANE IS CHIEF SIFUBA AREA AND DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL SIFUBA ROLE IN APRIL DISCARD OF CONSTITUTION.

2. PORTION SWAZI ARMY OR SOME THREE PLATOONS TOTALLING 240 MEN PARADED UNDER SWAZI NON COMS WHO WORLD WAR II VETERANS WEARING CAMPAIGN MEDALS AND EIGHTH ARMY PATCHES. NO OFFICERS PRESENT. OBSERVERS AGREED ARMY SUFFERED BADLY BY COMPARISON WITH POLICE UNITS ALSO PARADING.

3. KING CHOSE EDUCATION AS SUBJECT HIS PBULIC ADDRESS. POINTED OUT THAT EDUCATION AND WISDOM WERE DIFFERENT THINGS AND THAT TWO SHOULD NOT BE CONFUSED. POINT OF SPEECH WAS THAT WHILE BOOK EDUCATION WAS IMPORTANT, THERE WAS ALSO VIRTUE IN RETAINING KNOWLEDGE OF PRACTICAL SKILLS SUCH AS LIVESTOCK HUSBANDRY. AMERICANS HE SAID RECOGNIZED VALUE OF FOLK WISDOM AND DID NOT DISCRIMINATE AGAINST THOSE WHO NOT FORMALLY

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EDUCATED. HE GAVE AS EXAMPLE INVITATION TO UNEDUCATED SWAZI

WHO VISITED U. S. WITH SCHOOL TEACHER AS INTERPRETER (INCABANISO AND DUBE) AND WHO PROFITED GREATLY FROM TRIP.

4. PRIME MINISTER MAKHOSINI ANNOUNCED ROYAL REMISSION OF TWO MONTHS FROM ALL CRIMINAL SENTENCE ON OCCASION OF BIRTHDAY BUT IN COMMEMORATION OF APRIL "SUSPENSION" OF CONSTITUTION. BOTH KING AND PM SEEMED IN GOOD PHYSICAL CONDITION BUT KING TOOK OPPORTUNITIES TO REST MORE THIS YEAR THAN PREVIOUSLY PERHAPS AS CONSEQUENCE OF RECUPERATION FROM REPORTED RECENT INFLUENZA ATTACK.
SPICER

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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